

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 ICA-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
OES-07 SP-02 PM-05 DODE-00 EB-08 /069 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/CH:DSANDERS
APPROVED BY ARA/AND/CH:RSSTEVEN
-----109198 250745Z /11

R 242116Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS STATE 132530

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OCLR, SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: ESMERALDA INCIDENT IN SAN FRANCISCO

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE ON MAY 23
BUT NOT USED BECAUSE NO QUESTION WAS ASKED:

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE DISTURBANCES LAST
SATURDAY CONCERNING THE CHILEAN SHIP ESMERALDA?

A: WE HAVE RECEIVED A NUMBER OF REPORTS OF LAST SATUR-
DAY'S PROBLEMS INVOLVING THE VISIT OF THE CHILEAN TRAINING
SHIP ESMERALDA WHICH ALLEDGEDLY RESULTED IN SOME PHYSICAL
CONFRONTATIONS. WE ARE LOOKING INTO THOSE REPORTS CARE-
FULLY.

Q: WHY DID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PERMIT THE VISIT OF THIS
SHIP TO THE UNITED STATES?

A: THE ESMERALDA IS A SHIP OF THE CHILEAN NAVY USED FOR
TRAINING OF NAVAL CADETS. PERMISSION FOR HER TO VISIT
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UNITED STATES PORTS WAS GRANTED ON THE SAME BASIS AS IT IS
GRANTED TO THE NAVAL SHIPS OF ANY NATION WITH WHOM WE
MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

Q: WILL WE PROTEST TO THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT?

A: AS I SAID WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE MATTER.

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE ESMERALDA WILL VISIT SAN DIEGO ON THURSDAY?

A: THAT IS THE SHIP'S CURRENT SCHEDULE.

Q: WILL THE STATE DEPARTMENT SUGGEST THAT THE VISIT BE CANCELLED?

A: WE HAVE MADE NO SUCH RECOMMENDATION.

Q: BUT ARE YOU CONSIDERING DOING SO?

A: AS I SAID WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE EVENTS CONCERNING THE ESMERALDA IN SAN FRANCISCO. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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ISecure: 1
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